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(*b*) when the construction of this road began and what amount of money the Government have already spent on the construction of the road?

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" (*a*) There is no such road. But there is a road under construction from Mathamangalam to Alkad.

" (*b*) The construction of the road was taken up in December 1948. An expenditure of Rs. 64,320 has been incurred on the work."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know why the construction was stopped, when the construction will begin again and whether the Government have got any plan to complete the construction? "

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" The Special Officer states that there were no sufficient funds to continue the work and so, the work has been stopped. As and when funds are available, the work will again be taken up and completed."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Inasmuch as stopping the construction midway will entail great loss, will the Government at least instruct the local institutions that they should not start such business unless they can complete it? " 10-50 a.m.

THE HON. SRI K. RAJARAM :—" The work has been stopped at a very safe stage. Therefore, there is no difficulty about it."

District without a college.

* 376 *Q.*—SRI T. ANANTA PAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the districts in the State where there is not even a single college; and

(*b*) what the Government propose to do in the matter?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The Nilgiris district.

" (*b*) Representations received in regard to the opening of a College in the Nilgiris are under the consideration of the Government."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" There has been continuous agitation from the people of the Nilgiris for a college for the district and justly so. Their representatives feel so much over this issue that they have been suggesting the shifting of the Government College at Mangalore as if it is something on wheels that can be shifted from one place to another. In view of this, will the Government see that a college is started in the Nilgiris without delay? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I have already stated that the matter is under consideration. Simply because

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there is a demand for a college, it cannot be opened. Sufficient data have got to be collected, and we are collecting data to find out whether there is any necessity for a college there.''

Enhancement of fixed travelling allowance granted to foresters.

* 377 *Q.*—Sri M. DHARMALINGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of fixed travelling allowance given to foresters and the basis on which this was fixed;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the pay of the foresters was revised and increased from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 per mensem; and

(*c*) if so, why the fixed travelling allowance was not proportionately increased?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' (*a*) Foresters are paid a fixed travelling allowance of Rs. 13—2—0 per mensem in the plains and Rs. 19–11–0 in hill stations, if they do a minimum touring of twenty days in a month.

The rate of fixed travelling allowance has been decided taking into account the extent of the jurisdiction, the minimum period of touring and the status of the Government servant and the nature of conveyance used.

'' (*b*) The system of graded pay to foresters was replaced by time scale of pay.

'' (*c*) The matter was considered but it was not found possible to increase the rate owing to the financial implication.''

Sri M. DHARMALINGAM :—'' I am sure that the foresters are superior servants. But the Government are giving them daily allowance at the rate at which it is given to inferior servants. Is it not gross injustice on the part of the democratic Government to treat the superior servants as inferior servants in these days? ''

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' Foresters are paid in the scale of Rs. 50—85 per mensem. Foresters under Grades IX and X are entitled to a daily allowance of Rs. 2 under the Travelling Allowance Rules. There is no question of inferior or superior Government servants. If it is a question of injustice, that may be the view of the hon. Member.''

Sri S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—'' If Government consider this a wholesome principle to be applied in the case of foresters, will they apply it to all the Government servants and also to the Ministers with regard to their travelling allowance? ''

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—'' The question may be addressed to a different quarter.''